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# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers releases fiscal year 2002 budget request**

**Baltimore** – President Bush's budget transmitted to Congress today requests \$3.9 billion in appropriations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program for fiscal year 2002.

Funding is proposed to continue the sound development of the nation's water resources, the operation, maintenance and management of the nation's navigation, flood damage reduction, and multiple-purpose projects, the regulation of wetlands, and the restoration of important environmental resources, such as the South Florida Ecosystem. In allocating funds available for civil works, the budget gives priority to projects and programs that provide significant national benefits in the Corps' principal mission areas — commercial navigation, flood damage reduction, and environmental restoration.

In Maryland, the president's FY02 budget includes funds of approximately \$76 million for several major civil works projects. Among these are \$18.2 million to continue the construction of Poplar Island in the Chesapeake Bay; \$10 million for the environmental restoration of Assateague Island; \$8 million for construction of the Baltimore Harbor Anchorages and Channels project; and \$1.5 million to continue the Corps' work on the Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery effort.

This budget also provides nearly \$34.3 million for the operation and maintenance of the Baltimore Harbor and Channels and other commercial waterways, and funding to maintain several flood control projects within the state. In addition, the budget contains \$1.7 million to conduct studies and engineering and design work for several environmental restoration projects and two flood control projects.

The budget also includes \$2.3 million to continue renourishment of the Atlantic Coast of Maryland shore protection project, and proposes to increase from 35 to 65 percent the non-Federal cost share for renourishment work funded in FY2002 or thereafter at this and other ongoing and future shore protection projects.

Given the large backlog of funding needed to complete construction projects already under way nationwide (over \$21 billion in the Construction, General account alone), the budget focuses on completing ongoing projects, rather than starting construction of new projects that would add to this backlog and increase delays in completing ongoing projects.

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## **FY02 Budget Request/2-2-2**

The budget also redirects funds from projects added by Congress in FY2001 that are not consistent with established policies. Funds are included to continue construction of important commercial navigation projects, such as \$81 million to continue projects to deepen the Port of New York and New Jersey and \$34 million to continue construction of the Olmsted Locks and Dam, Illinois and Kentucky.

It also includes funds to continue construction of flood damage reduction projects for communities across the nation, such as \$19 million for the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising project in northeast Pennsylvania.

In the operation and maintenance program nationwide, the budget gives priority among port and harbor and inland waterway activities to those that support high commercial navigation use, and redirects funds from lower-priority activities, such as recreational harbors and low commercial-use inland waterway segments.

The budget also proposes to phase in increases in recreation user fees, with the increases directly available to the Corps to spend on operation, maintenance, and improvement of its recreation facilities.

Details of the FY02 Civil Works Budget, including state-by-state information, are available by selecting Programs Management at the Civil Works Directorate World Wide Web site: **<http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/cecwb/budget/>**

The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is to provide quality, responsive engineering service to the Army and the nation. The Corps plans, designs, builds and operates water resources and other Civil Works projects to provide a variety of benefits to the taxpayer, including flood damage reduction, navigation, environmental restoration, water supply, hydroelectric power and recreation. The Corps also provides military construction for the Army and Air Force and design and construction management support for other federal agencies.